October Monthly Bulletin

Below is a snapshot of the work products and initiatives currently being developed by SAFECOM's four Committees.

The National Association of State Technology Directors (NASTD)

The National Association of State Technology Directors (NASTD) is a member-driven organization whose purpose is to advance and promote the effective use of information technology and services to improve the operation of state government laws, administrative rulings, judicial decisions, and technology issues.

Education and Outreach

▶ The Education and Outreach Committee elections for the Chair & Vice Chair positions will be held in Norman, Oklahoma during the SAFECOM Executive Committee (EC) Meeting.

▶ Initial feedback has been received for the Roles and Responsibilities document and Engagement Plan. The Committee is currently looking for a volunteer to develop the Roles and Responsibilities document.

▶ Committee members are currently reviewing the website and have begun developing a blog for the SAFECOM Website – Please submit blogposts to SAFECOMGovernance@HQ.DHS.GOV

▶ SAFECOM has been given an opportunity to present at the International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE). The Education & Outreach Committee will be will be coordinating outreach efforts for this event and will be looking for volunteers to present. The Committee is also exploring outreach opportunities at other national public safety meetings.

▶ The Committee will be presenting a robust Communications Unit Leader (COML) presentation at the upcoming in-person meeting in November. Please come prepared to discuss what COML means to you and how we can improve the process.

▶ Next meeting: November 25, 2015, at 2:00 pm ET

Funding and Sustainment

▶ The Funding and Sustainment Committee met on October 21, 2015, where they received an update on legislation affecting Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (SWIC), Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Appropriations, and FY 2016 SAFECOM Grant Guidance.

▶ The Committee approved the Funding Mechanism document, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Inspector General Best Practices for Grants Management, SAFECOM Guidance for Broadband Purchasing, and discussed status and next steps of remaining products, including Land Mobile Radio (LMR) Papers and System Life Cycle Guide.

▶ Next meeting: November 18, 2015, at 4:00 pm ET

Technology Policy

‣ The Technology Policy Committee met on October 27, 2015, to discussing work products and ongoing initiatives.
‣ The Committee, in collaboration with the National Public Safety Telecommunications Counsel (NPSTC), continued to discuss the current T-band situation and to plan for the upcoming joint meeting in Norman, Oklahoma.
‣ The Committee completed an internal Technology Policy review of the Cybersecurity Primer and Cybersecurity Resources document and adjudicated comments.
‣ Committee members provided feedback on the Key Management Best Practices document and continued to support ongoing initiatives for data interoperability and National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) implementation.
‣ Next Meeting: November 17, 2015, at 3:00 pm ET

Governance

‣ The Governance Committee continues to develop and design the Marilyn J. Praisner SAFECOM Leadership Award.
‣ The Committee developed and submitted recommendations for improvements to the EC governance structure to the EC for consideration. The EC will review these recommendations during the November in-person EC meeting in Norman, Oklahoma.
‣ The Committee will review the 2015 SAFECOM Strategic Plan, pending the outcomes of the EC structure discussion.
‣ SAFECOM Chair and Vice Chair(s) elections, as well as the Education & Outreach and Funding & Sustainment Committees' chair and vice chair elections will occur during the November in-person EC meeting.
‣ Next meeting: December TBD

SAFECOM Association Highlights and Current Events

New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services, Office of Interoperability & Emergency Communications
‣ Hosting the Communications Unit (COMU) Interface Course in Albany, NY on November 12, 2015
‣ Hosting the meeting of the NYS Communications and Interoperability Working Group in Albany, NY on November 17, 2015

▸ Hosting the meeting of the New York State Interoperability Governing Board in Albany, NY on November 17, 2015

▸ The New York City Department of Emergency Management will be hosting the meeting of the New York City Interagency Communications Committee at their headquarters in Brooklyn, NY on November 18, 2015.

For more information or questions related to SAFECOM, please contact your association's SAFECOM representative or SAFECOMGovernance@hq.dhs.gov.